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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-fifth session
6-16 March 2001
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Andorra*, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada*, Chile, Fiji*, Germany, Iceland*, Ireland*, Liechtenstein*, Mexico, Nauru*, New Zealand*, Norway*, Sweden*, Switzerland*, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Vanuatu*: draft resolution

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Affirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session and for achieving the overall goal of gender equality,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/6 of 22 July 1996, in which the Council decided that the Commission on the Status of Women would have a catalytic role on mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes and would identify issues where United Nations system-wide coordination needed to be improved in order to assist the Council in its coordination,

Recalling also its resolution 41/6 of 21 March 1997[1] on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.

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Recalling further Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2[2] on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, in which there was a call for immediate and concrete steps to mainstream a gender perspective, including the implementation of the 1997/2 agreed conclusions as a matter of urgency and at the latest by the time of the five-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action in 2000,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 55/71 of 4 December 2000, in which the Assembly, inter alia, invited the Economic and Social Council to continue policy coordination and inter-agency cooperation towards the achievement of the objectives of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, including by considering dedicating specific segments to the advancement of women and implementation of the above-mentioned documents and by mainstreaming a gender perspective in all its work,

1. *Reaffirms* that the primary goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective is the achievement of gender equality as affirmed in the Beijing Platform for Action;

2. *Reaffirms also* that mainstreaming a gender perspective is integral to the empowerment of women and to achieving gender equality;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing commitment of the Secretary-General to mainstreaming a gender perspective into the United Nations system and the steps taken by various entities of the United Nations system to integrate a gender perspective into their work, including those outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[3]

4. *Welcomes also* the statement on gender equality and mainstreaming in the work of the United Nations system issued by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its first regular session of 1998;[4]

5. *Welcomes further* the work of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, particularly its coordination and catalytic role in the area of gender mainstreaming, policy analysis and operational activities in the work programmes of the bodies of the United Nations system, and its work in compiling good practices, guidelines and indicators in the area of gender mainstreaming;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in future reports to the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, to assess progress made on mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system, including by providing information on key achievements, lessons learned and best practices, and to recommend further actions and strategies for future action within the United Nations system;

Recommends that the Economic and Social Council adopt the following decision:

The Economic and Social Council,

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1).

[3] E/CN.6/2001/2.

[4] ACC/1998/4, para. 63.

Having considered resolution 45/___ of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Decides to:

(a) Establish, in the context of its general segment, a regular item on its agenda on mainstreaming a gender perspective in the United Nations system to, inter alia, monitor and evaluate achievements made and obstacles encountered by the United Nations system, including the Secretariat, and consider further measures to strengthen implementation and monitoring of gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, including the development of guidelines and practical tools, such as, inter alia, performance indicators, mechanisms for accountability, gender training programmes and impact analyses, as well as the identification and compilation of best practices, and the use of Internet-based tools;

(b) Devote a future coordination segment, by 2005, to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system and to identify further strategies to accelerate their implementation, and as part of this review and appraisal, and to request functional commissions to report on the progress made in implementing the agreed conclusions 1997/2 in their work;

(c) Ensure that a gender perspective is mainstreamed into all its work and, in order to enhance its ability to do so, requests the Secretary-General and bodies reporting to the Economic and Social Council to address the gender aspects of issues before the Council in their reports;

(d) Further intensify its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all its activities concerning integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences, building upon agreed conclusions 1997/2 of the Council.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.